”Even If” Statements

HSK 4 Grammar

Original teaching practice. Read one pattern, cover its model and try the questions before checking the separate answer section. Examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA) retain the course-reference provenance.

即使 … ，也 … (even if)

Rain or shine

- Your football coach is determined that tomorrow’s training will happen.
- **即使明天下雨，我们也要训练。** – “Even if it rains tomorrow, we’ll still train.”

即使 A，也 B = even if A, still B

- **即使 + possible situation，Subject + 也 + result** = even if A happens, B stays the same.
- A is usually hypothetical; 也 is needed in the second clause.

即使很忙，他也每天运动。
jí shǐ hěn máng tā yě měi tiān yùn dòng
Word guide: 即使 – even if; 很 – very; 忙 – busy; 他 – he; 也 – still; 每天 – every day; 运动 – exercises.



Promises and determination

- **即使大家都反对，我也要试试。** – “Even if everyone is against it, I’m going to give it a try.”
- **即使你不说，我也知道。** – “Even if you don’t say it, I know.”

即使你不说，我也知道。
jí shǐ nǐ bù shuō wǒ yě zhī dào
Word guide: 即使 – even if; 你 – you; 不 – don’t; 说 – say; 我 – I; 也 – still; 知道 – know.

■ 也 after the subject

- Put 也 after the subject of the second clause: 我也要去, not 也我要去.
- 即使 pairs with 也, not 但是: 即使下雨，也去, not 即使下雨，但是去.

■ 即使 versus 虽然 / 尽管

- 虽然 / 尽管 state a fact: 虽然下雨了，我们还是去了 (it did rain).
- 即使 states a possibility: 即使下雨，我们也去 (it might rain).

虽然下雨了，我们还是去了。
suī rán xià yǔ le wǒ men hái shi qù le
Word guide: 虽然 – although; 下雨 – it rained; 我们 – we; 还是 – still; 去 – went.

■ Recap

- **即使 A，(Subject) 也 B** = even if A, still B (A hypothetical).
- 也 after the subject; facts take 虽然 / 尽管.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

■ 即使 … ，也 … (even if)

1601.1 Complete: “Even if it’s expensive, I’ll buy it.” 即使很贵，我 …… 要买。

1601.2 It rained yesterday, and you went out anyway. Which fits? _____ 昨天下雨了，我们还是出去了。

- A. 如果
- B. 虽然
- C. 即使
- D. 只要

1601.3 Build: “Even if everyone is against it, I’m going to try.”

Arrange all chunks: 即使大家都反对 / 我也 / ， / 要试试。

1601.4 即使下雨，但是我们去 is correct.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

1601.5 Your football coach is determined that tomorrow’s training will happen. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

Answers and explanations

■ 即使 … ，也 … (even if)

1601.1 也

即使 pairs with 也.

1601.2 B. 虽然

A fact takes 虽然; 即使 is for possibilities.

1601.3 即使大家都反对，我也要试试。

即使 A，subject + 也 + B.

1601.4 False.

即使 pairs with 也: 即使下雨，我们也去.

1601.5 One possible response: 即使明天下雨，我们也要训练。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Put 也 after the subject of the second clause: 我也要去, not 也我要去.
- 即使 pairs with 也, not 但是: 即使下雨，也去, not 即使下雨，但是去.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.